REMARKS

Applicant's counsel thanks the Examiner for the careful consideration given the application.

Claims

Original claims 1-15 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.. New claims 16-45 have been presented.

Support for new claims 16-35 and 41-45 can be found, for example, in Fig. 4 and the corresponding description of the originally filed application. In particular, "numeric" and "linguistic" can be found on page 7, lines 17-23; "t-norm operator" and "algebraic product norm" are reasonably inferred from the description, for example, page 7, lines 1-2.

Support for new claims 36-40 can be found, for example, in Figs. 1-4 and the corresponding description of the originally filed application.

The new claims are fully supported by the application as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments made to the claims.

Claim Rejections-35 USC §101

The Examiner rejected original claims 1-15 under 35 USC 101 as being non-statutory subject matter.

As discussed, original claims 1-15 have been cancelled. The new claims have been added to more clearly define the invention.

New claim 36 is directed to "An intelligent data management system for reasoning about data" and defines elements including data source and client device that are clearly tied to the real-world and for a practical application.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

Claim Rejections-35 USC §102

The Examiner rejected original claims 1-15 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Lawrence et al. (USPN 6,272,481).

As discussed, original claims 1-15 have been replaced with new claims 16-45.

The present application discloses method and apparatus for a modular parametric inference engine that can be adapted to reason from fuzzy logic rules regardless of the nature of application. The rule fired is based on the type of the data determined, whether the data is numeric or linguistic, and different rules are selected accordingly. Claims 16-45 contain these features.

Lawrence et al. does not deal with fuzzy logic inference and any fuzzy logic or fuzzy inference in association with any decision support system. Applicant respectfully submits that Lawrence et al. fails to disclose or suggest the subject matter defined by the new claims.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

In view of the above amendments and remarks and having dealt with all of the objections raised by the Examiner, reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously requested.

If any additional fees are required by this communication, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. GOWL-38248.

Respectfully submitted,
PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By _John P. Murtaugh_
John P. Murtaugh, Reg. No. 34226

1801 East 9th Street
Suite 1200
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3108
Phone: (216) 579-1700   Fax: (216) 579-6073
Date: _7-30-08_